

House Republican Press Release

January 10, 2005
Press Office: 860-240-8700

Rep. DelGobbo Warns of Dangers to Jobs, Business and Consumers from Climate Change Action Plan



Legislator Says the Only Climate Sure to Change is Business Climate

State Representative Kevin M. DelGobbo (R-70th, Naugatuck), ranking member of the legislature's Energy and Technology Committee, warned that a Connection action plan to address global warming threatens to drive jobs, businesses and consumers out of the state.

Rep. DelGobbo, speaking at a legislative hearing in Hartford, cautioned that the plan will prevent much needed electric generating plants to be built in Connecticut to meet electricity demand that is growing three to five percent a year. He said the plan also will mandate dramatic changes to emissions caused by transportation, commerce, and agriculture as well as electricity generation.

He also criticized a provision to impose a surcharge on heating oil and natural gas sales to fund energy conservation programs, that will boost already soaring energy costs to consumers and businesses.

"The only climate that is sure to change as a result of this plan is the business climate," said Rep. DelGobbo, "jeopardizing jobs and eliminating opportunity for new business development."

"People talk about jobs leaving our state for other states and other nations," said Rep. DelGobbo. "Our response should not be to make the costs of doing business here even higher."

Rep. DelGobbo said, "I don't know how this fits into the entire global picture. Little Connecticut stands here and says, 'We are going to change the world,' because of the costs we impose on our economy and our citizens. Are we just going to feel good, as we go over a cliff?"

He told other legislators of visits to former Soviet states, China and Indonesia. "I watched limitless spewing of emissions, without regard to environmental standards," he said.

Rep. DelGobbo noted that the proposed climate change plan lacks an analysis of the costs of the plan for the legislature to evaluate. He pointed out that Connecticut already has among the most stringent environmental standards in the nation in a whole range of areas.

Legislators from the Environment, Energy and Technology, Commerce and Transportation committees discussed the state's proposed global warming and climate change action plan during a hearing at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford.

State Rep. Kevin DelGobbo represents the 70th Assembly District of Naugatuck in the state House of Representatives.